

ABSTRACT

Compositions and methods are provided to make, isolate, characterize and use regulatable, catalytically active nucleic acids (RCANA). RCANA may be used for regulating gene expression and in assays to detect the presence of ligands or to detect
5 activation by an effector of an RCANA bound to a solid support such as a chip or multi-well plate. Also disclosed are compositions and methods for automating the selection procedures of the present invention.